

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 remain active in the case. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to silicas that have an inhomogeneous structure or composition.

Specification Amendment

The first line on page 1 of the text relating to the designation of the cross-reference to related applications has been deleted. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Applicants do not concur that the subject matter added to the specification by way of the correction of incorrect patent numbers on page 8 of the text represents objectionable new matter. Correction of the patent numbers in no way changes the scope of the disclosure of the specification and the requested changes certainly have no impact upon the allowed claims. Accordingly, simple correction of the indicated two patent numbers is a completely reasonable request and such correction is requested. Applicants, in fact, are submitting a petition to this effect.

It is now believed that the application is in proper condition for consideration.

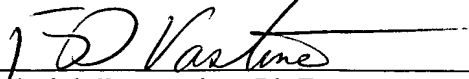
Respectfully submitted,

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